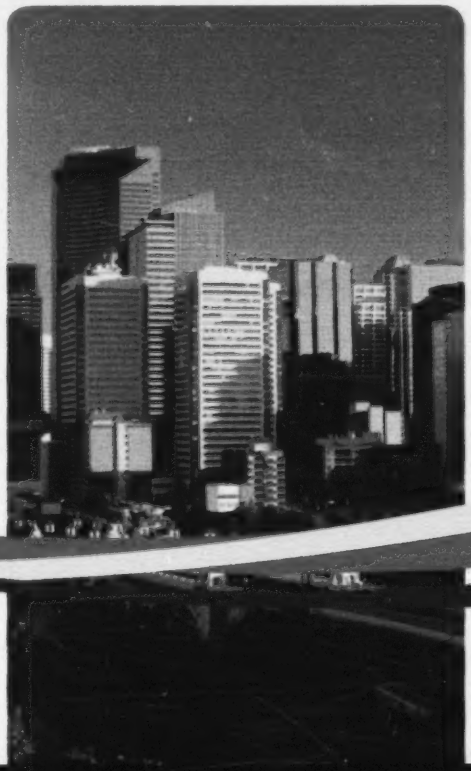
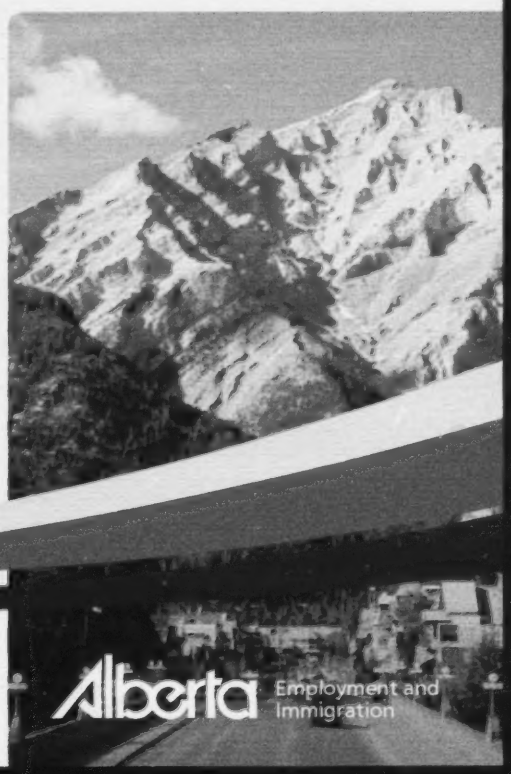
2008 ANNUAL ALBERTA REGIONAL LABOUR MARKET REVIEW

ATHABASCA – GRANDE PRAIRIE – PEACE RIVER • BANFF – JASPER – ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE • CAMROSE – DRUMHELLER • LETHBRIDGE – MEDICINE HAT • EDMONTON • CALGARY • WOOD BUFFALO – COLD LAKE • RED DEER •





Alberta Employment and Immigration

HIGHLIGHTS

I. Alberta: Overview

- Alberta had the lowest unemployment rate in Canada at 3.6%.
- Alberta experienced the highest participation rate among all provinces, 74.7%.
- Alberta had the highest employment rate in Canada at 72.0%, a record high.

II. Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake Economic Region

- In 2008, the region had the third largest year-over-year increase after Edmonton Economic Region and Lethbridge – Medicine Hat Economic Region, in the number of employed people at 3.5%, from 68,000 in 2007 to 70,400 in 2008.
- Oil sands projects aided employment growth in the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake Region.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas.

III. Athabasca-Grande Prairie Economic Region

- In 2008, employment decreased by 0.2%, from 133,300 in 2007 to 133,100 in 2008.
- Decreased drilling activities in this region resulted in employment decline.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Transportation and Warehousing.

IV. Edmonton Economic Region

- The employment rate increased by 1.0 percentage points, from 69.0% in 2007 to 70.0% in 2008.
- The region as a major supply centre benefited from major projects in the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake Region.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Trade.

V. Red Deer Economic Region

- In 2008, the number of employed people increased by 0.2%, from 107,800 people in 2007 to 109,200 people in 2008.
- There were several construction projects, which supplied employment to the region.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Other Services*.

* This sector comprises establishments, not classified to any other sector, primarily engaged in repairing, or performing general or routine maintenance, on motor vehicles, machinery, equipment and other products to ensure that they work efficiently; providing personal care services, funeral services, laundry services and other services to individuals, such as pet care services and photo finishing services; organizing and promoting religious activities; supporting various causes through grant-making, advocating (promoting) various social and political causes, and promoting and defending the interests of their members. Private households are also included.

VI. Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House Economic Region

- The Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House Region had the highest participation rate and employment rate in the province, at 79.0% and 76.1% respectively.
- Various construction projects, as well as growth in the tourism industry contributed to the region's economy.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Accommodation and Food Services.

VII. Calgary Economic Region

- The number of employed people in the Calgary Region increased by 2.9%, from 736,200 in 2007 to 757,900 in 2008.
- Construction industry helped create employment, with demand in the housing and condominium market.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.

VIII. Camrose-Drumheller Economic Region

- The Camrose-Drumheller Region had the lowest unemployment rate in the province at 2.7%.
- High construction activity and oil projects in the region contributed to increasing employment.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Manufacturing.

IX. Lethbridge-Medicine Hat Economic Region

- In 2008, the region had the third largest number of employed people in the province at 138,800, after Calgary and Edmonton regions, 757,900 and 644,100 respectively.
- The number of unemployed people in the region decreased by 14.3% from 5,600 in 2007 to 4,800 in 2008.
- The industry with the highest year-over-year increase in employment was Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing.

In 2008, Alberta had the highest participation rate (see glossary of definitions) in Canada at 74.7%, 6.9 percentage points higher than the national average. Alberta also had the highest employment rate at 72.0% and the lowest unemployment rate at 3.6%.

LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS, CANADA AND PROVINCES, 2008 — FIGURE 1

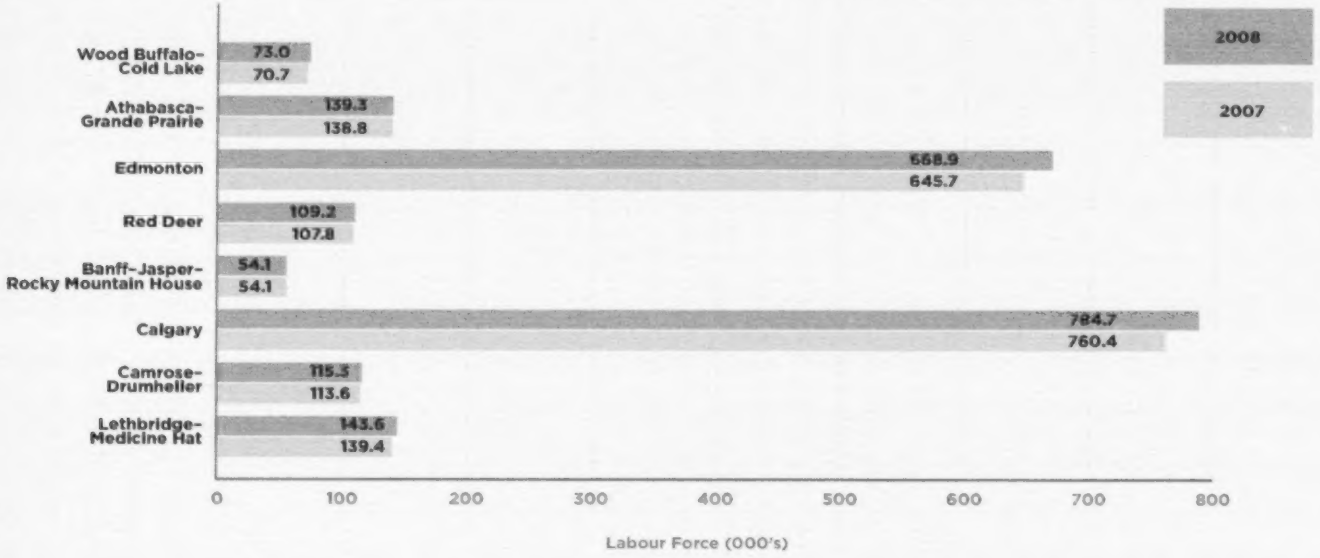
Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

	PARTICIPATION RATE (%)	EMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Canada	**67.8**	**63.6**	**6.1**
Newfoundland and Labrador	59.5	51.7	13.2
Prince Edward Island	68.7	61.3	10.8
Nova Scotia	63.9	59.0	7.7
New Brunswick	64.8	59.3	8.6
Quebec	65.7	60.9	7.2
Ontario	68.1	63.6	6.5
Manitoba	69.6	66.7	4.2
Saskatchewan	69.7	66.8	4.1
Alberta	**74.7**	**72.0**	**3.6**
British Columbia	66.6	63.5	4.6

Alberta's labour force grew by 2.8% or 57,500 people between 2007 and 2008. The labour force in the Edmonton Region had the largest growth rate in 2008, increasing by 3.6% or 23,200 people. In 2008, Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House was the only region to experience a zero increase in the labour force. During this period, 69.6% of Alberta's labour force lived in the Edmonton and Calgary regions. Figure 2 shows the change in labour force for Alberta's eight economic regions in 2007 and 2008.

LABOUR FORCE FOR ALBERTA'S ECONOMIC REGIONS, 2007 AND 2008 — FIGURE 2

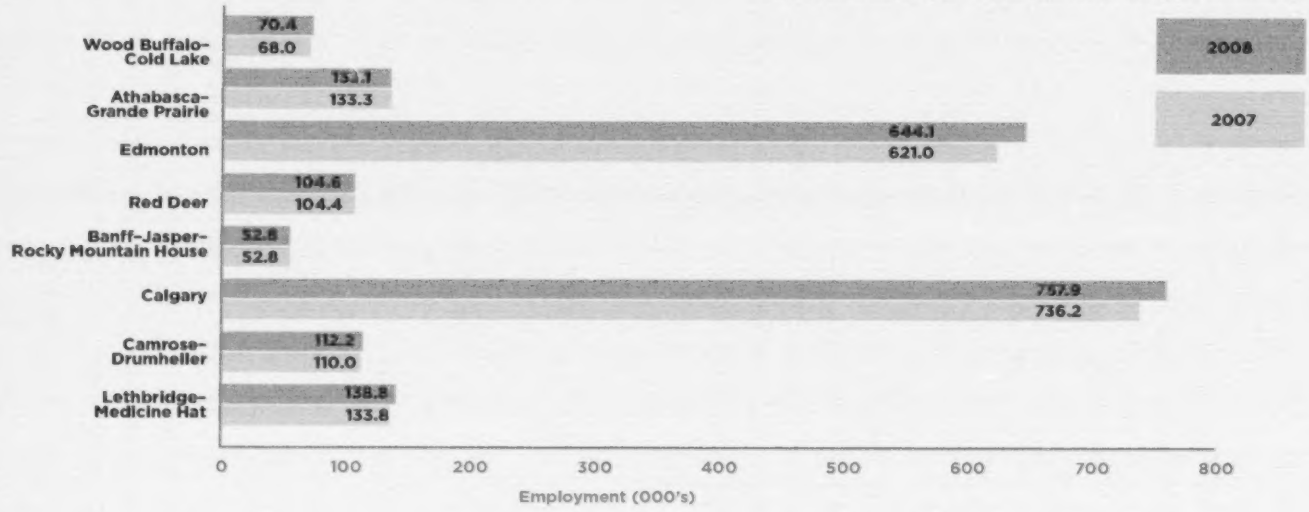
Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



In 2008, the number of people employed in Alberta was 2,013,300, an increase of 53,900 or 2.8% from the 2007 level. All of Alberta's economic regions experienced a growth in employment in 2008, with the exception of the Athabasca-Grande Prairie Region and the Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House Region. The Edmonton Region had the largest employment growth rate in Alberta at 3.7%. Figure 3 displays the employment figures for Alberta's eight economic regions for 2007 and 2008.

EMPLOYMENT FOR ALBERTA'S ECONOMIC REGIONS, 2007 AND 2008 — FIGURE 3

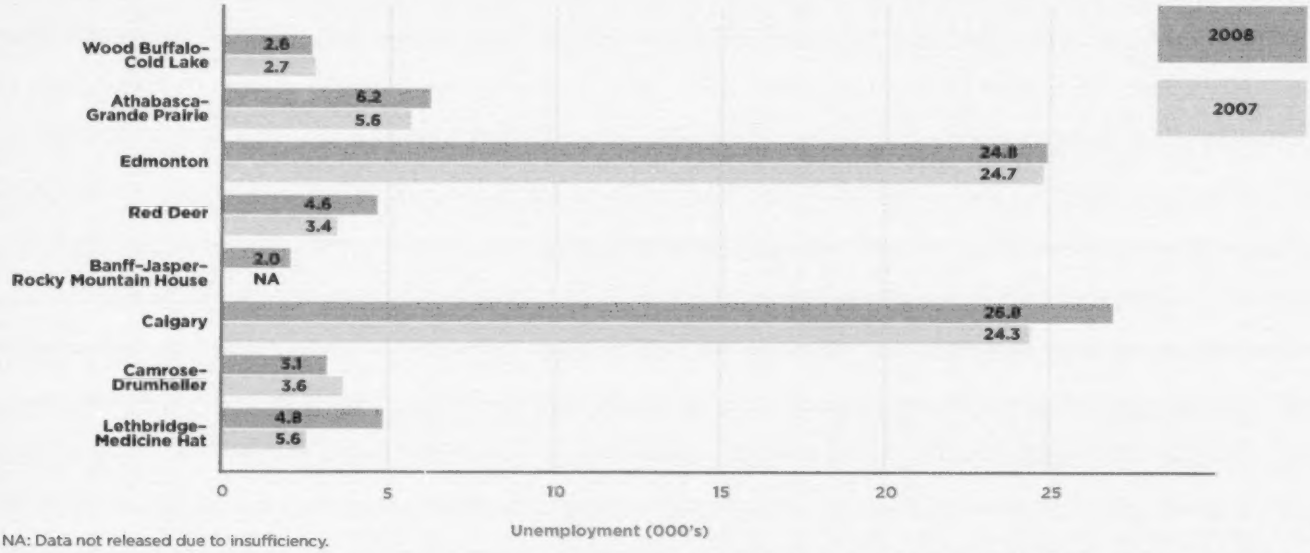
Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



The number of unemployed people in Alberta increased by 5.2%, from 71,100 in 2007 to 74,800 in 2008. In 2008, the Lethbridge-Medicine Hat Region experienced the largest decrease in unemployed people, a reduction of 800 people to 4,800. Figure 4 displays the number of unemployed people for Alberta's eight economic regions for 2007 and 2008.

UNEMPLOYMENT FOR ALBERTA'S ECONOMIC REGIONS, 2007 AND 2008 — FIGURE 4

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



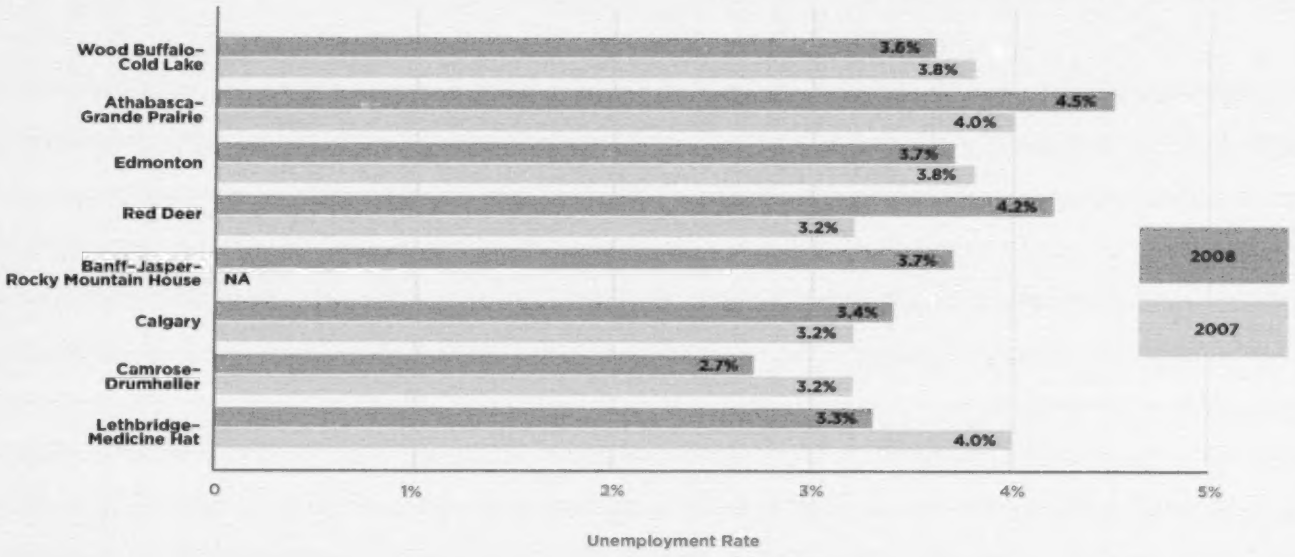
NA: Data not released due to insufficiency.

The provincial unemployment rate increased to 3.6% in 2008, up 0.1 percentage point from 2007. During this period, the Camrose-Drumheller Region had the lowest unemployment rate in the province at 2.7%, while the Athabasca-Grande Prairie Region had the highest unemployment rate at 4.5%. The Red Deer Region experienced the greatest increase in its unemployment rate, increasing 1.0 percentage point. The unemployment rates for Alberta's eight economic regions are displayed in Figure 5.

Alberta's labour force grew by 2.8% or 57,500 people between 2007 and 2008. The labour force in the Edmonton Region had the largest growth rate in 2008, increasing by 3.6% or 23,200 people. In 2008, Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House was the only region to experience no increase in the labour force. During this period, 69.6% of Alberta's labour force lived in the Edmonton and Calgary regions. Figure 2 shows the change in labour force for Alberta's eight economic regions in 2007 and 2008.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR ALBERTA'S ECONOMIC REGIONS, 2007 AND 2008 — FIGURE 5

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



NA: Data not released due to insufficiency.

WOOD BUFFALO–COLD LAKE ECONOMIC REGION:
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Between 2007 and 2008, the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake Region's labour force increased by 2,300 people. During this period, the participation rate for the region was 78.7%. The number of employed people in the region grew by 2,400, an increase of 3.5%.

In 2008, oil sands projects offered continuing employment to the region. Construction on twinning the first section of Highway 63 south of Fort McMurray from Highway 69 to south of Highway 881 supplied jobs, improved safety and expanded the capacity of the provincial highway network in the Wood Buffalo region.

WOOD BUFFALO-COLD LAKE ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS — FIGURE 6

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

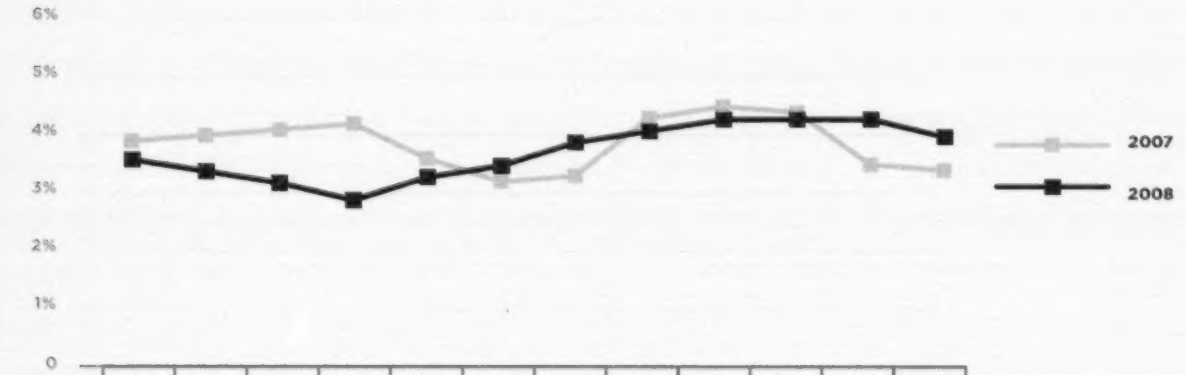
	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	91.0	92.8	2.0%
Labour Force (000's)	70.7	73.0	3.3%
Employment (000's)	68.0	70.4	3.5%
Unemployment (000's)	2.7	2.6	-3.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	3.6%	-0.2%

Figure 7 displays the monthly unemployment rates for the region in 2007 and 2008. Overall, the annual unemployment rate decreased 0.2 percentage points to 3.6% in 2008. The unemployment rate peaked in September at 4.1%, and it then continually declined to a low of 3.8% in December.

WOOD BUFFALO-COLD LAKE ECONOMIC REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2007-2008

Unadjusted, 3-Month Moving Average — FIGURE 7

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	3.9%	4.0%	4.1%	4.2%	3.6%	3.2%	3.3%	4.3%	4.5%	4.4%	3.5%	3.4%
2008	3.4%	3.0%	3.0%	2.7%	3.1%	3.3%	3.7%	3.9%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	3.8%

WOOD BUFFALO–COLD LAKE ECONOMIC REGION:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 8 shows the change in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 2,800 between 2007 and 2008, while employment in the Services-Producing industries decreased by 400. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas, 1,800; and Trade, 1,200.

WOOD BUFFALO-COLD LAKE ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS — FIGURE 8

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	2,300	2,500	200
Accommodation and Food Services	3,400	3,000	-400
Business, Building and Other Support Services	2,300	2,300	0
Construction	7,800	8,600	800
Education Services	4,700	4,000	-700
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	2,500	3,000	500
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	14,500	16,300	1,800
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,900	5,300	-600
Information, Culture and Recreation	1,600	1,900	300
Manufacturing	2,200	1,700	-500
Other Services	3,700	3,200	-500
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	2,700	2,500	-200
Public Administration	2,900	2,500	-400
Trade	7,700	8,900	1,200
Transportation and Warehousing	3,500	3,900	400

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

In 2008, the Athabasca-Grande Prairie Region's labour force increased by 0.4% or 1,100 people. Employment decreased by 0.2%, or 200 people. During this period, the region's unemployment rate increased 0.5 percentage points to 4.5%. The number of unemployed people in the region increased by 600, from 5,600 to 6,200 people.

ATHABASCA–GRANDE PRAIRIE–PEACE RIVER ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS

FIGURE 9

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	183.2	186.4	1.7%
Labour Force (000's)	138.8	139.3	0.4%
Employment (000's)	133.3	133.1	-0.2%
Unemployment (000's)	5.6	6.5	16.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	4.5%	0.5%

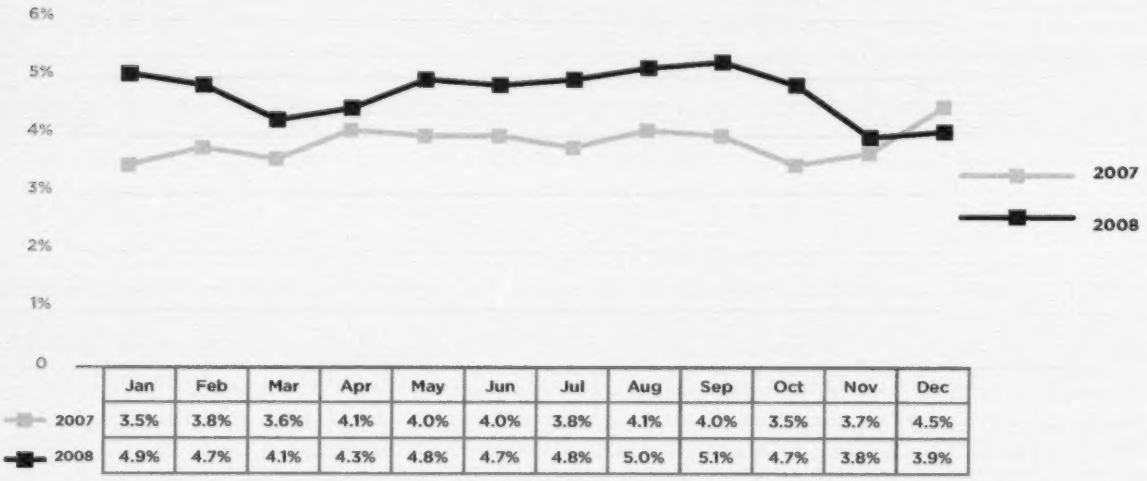
Figure 10 shows the monthly unemployment rates for the Athabasca-Grande Prairie Region. In 2008, the unemployment rate peaked in August at 5.0%. Overall, the unemployment rate increased 0.5 percentage points, from 4.0% in 2007 to 4.5 % in 2008.

ATHABASCA–GRANDE PRAIRIE ECONOMIC REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2007-2008

Unadjusted, 3-Month Moving Average

FIGURE 10

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	3.5%	3.8%	3.6%	4.1%	4.0%	4.0%	3.8%	4.1%	4.0%	3.5%	3.7%	4.5%
2008	4.9%	4.7%	4.1%	4.3%	4.8%	4.7%	4.8%	5.0%	5.1%	4.7%	3.8%	3.9%

ATHABASCA–GRANDE PRAIRIE:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 11 shows the change in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, the Athabasca-Grande Prairie Region's employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 100, while employment in the Services-Producing industries decreased by 400. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Transportation and Warehousing, 2,100; Health Care and Social Assistance, 1,200; and Accommodation and Food Services, 900. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Other Services, 1,900; Finance, Education Services, 1,500; Agriculture, 1,100; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 900.

ATHABASCA–GRANDE PRAIRIE ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS — FIGURE 11

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	7,200	6,100	-1,100
Accommodation and Food Services	7,700	8,600	900
Business, Building and Other Support Services	3,200	3,000	-200
Construction	12,400	13,200	800
Education Services	9,100	7,600	-1,500
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	5,200	4,700	-500
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	16,400	17,000	600
Health Care and Social Assistance	11,700	12,900	1,200
Information, Culture and Recreation	3,200	3,200	0
Manufacturing	9,100	8,700	-400
Other Services	8,200	6,300	-1,900
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5,800	4,900	-900
Public Administration	3,500	3,400	-100
Trade	21,900	22,300	400
Transportation and Warehousing	7,800	9,900	2,100

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

EDMONTON ECONOMIC REGION:
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The Edmonton Region's labour force increased by 3.6%, from 645,700 people in 2007 to 668,900 people in 2008. In 2008, the participation rate was 72.9%. During the same period, employment increased by 3.7% or 23,100. The number of unemployed people in 2008 was 24,800, an increase of 0.4% from the previous year.

The region as a major supply centre benefited from construction projects in the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake Region. Construction projects, including the Heritage Mall Re-development to 'Century Park' Mixed-Use Development, the extension of the Anthony Henday Highway, Light Rail Transit expansion and ongoing projects at the University of Alberta, contributed to employment in the region.

EDMONTON ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS — FIGURE 12

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

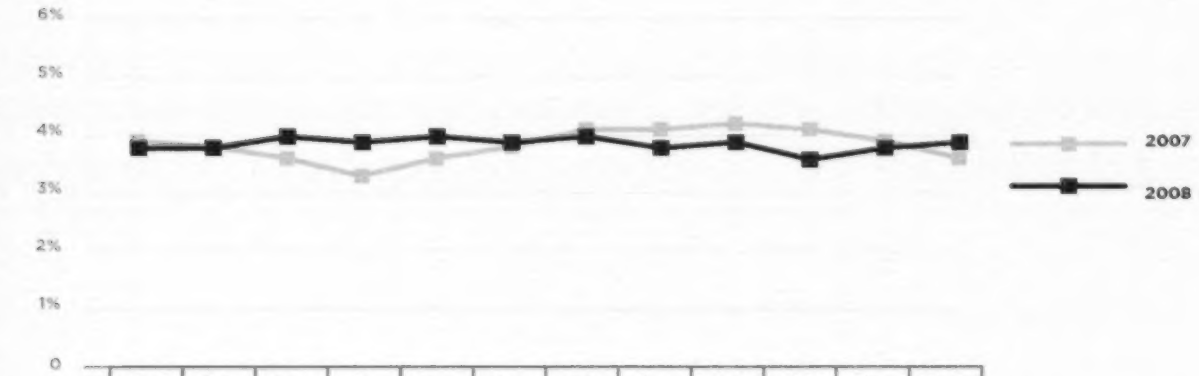
	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	900.0	917.4	1.9%
Labour Force (000's)	645.7	668.9	3.6%
Employment (000's)	621.0	644.1	3.7%
Unemployment (000's)	24.7	24.8	0.4%
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	3.7%	0.1%

Figure 13 displays the unadjusted monthly unemployment rates for the Edmonton Region in 2007 and 2008. Overall, in 2008, the unemployment rate decreased 0.1 percentage points, from 3.8% in 2007 to 3.7 % in 2008. In July 2008, the region's unemployment rate peaked at 3.8% and reached 3.7% in December.

EDMONTON ECONOMIC REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2007-2008

Unadjusted, 3-Month Moving Average — FIGURE 13

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	3.9%	3.8%	3.6%	3.3%	3.6%	3.8%	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%	4.1%	3.9%	3.6%
2008	3.6%	3.6%	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	3.7%	3.4%	3.6%	3.7%

EDMONTON ECONOMIC REGION:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 14 shows the change in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 23,000 in 2008, while employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 200. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Trade, 20,000; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 7,200; and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing, 5,800. Industries to experience the largest decrease in employment were: Accommodation and Food Services, 4,900; and Business, Building and Other Support Services, 4,900.

EDMONTON ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS — FIGURE 14

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	3,700	4,000	300
Accommodation and Food Services	37,100	32,200	-4,900
Business, Building and Other Support Services	24,700	19,800	-4,900
Construction	66,800	68,700	1,900
Education Services	48,800	50,300	1,500
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	29,600	35,400	5,800
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	21,600	21,400	-200
Health Care and Social Assistance	65,500	64,300	-1,200
Information, Culture and Recreation	26,400	25,500	-900
Manufacturing	53,400	50,700	-2,700
Other Services	33,000	30,300	-2,700
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	43,800	51,000	7,200
Public Administration	34,100	35,400	1,300
Trade	94,500	114,500	20,000
Transportation and Warehousing	32,600	34,500	1,900
Utilities	5,200	6,200	1,000

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

The Red Deer Region's labour force increased by 1.3%, from 107,800 people in 2007 to 109,200 people in 2008. The number of employed people increased by 0.2%, from 104,400 in 2007 to 104,600 in 2008. The number of unemployed people in 2008 was 4,600, an increase of 35.3% from the previous year.

RED DEER ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS

FIGURE 15

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	142.2	146.2	2.8%
Labour Force (000's)	107.8	109.2	1.3%
Employment (000's)	104.4	104.6	0.2%
Unemployment (000's)	3.4	4.6	35.3%
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	4.2%	1.0%

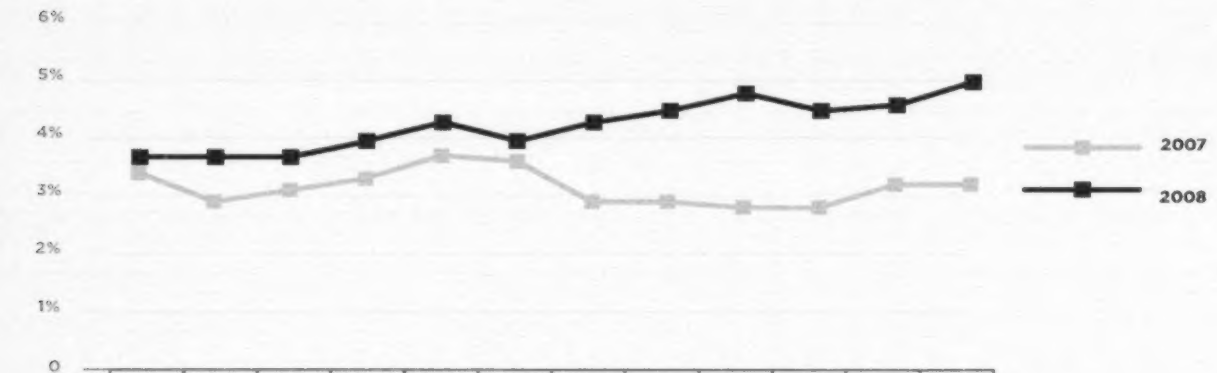
Figure 16 displays the region's monthly unemployment rates in 2007 and 2008. Overall, the unemployment rate increased to 4.2% in 2008. The monthly unemployment rates fluctuated throughout the year, with a low of 3.5% in January, February and March; to a high of 4.8% in December.

RED DEER ECONOMIC REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2007-2008

Unadjusted, 3-Month Moving Average

FIGURE 16

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	3.4%	2.9%	3.1%	3.3%	3.7%	3.6%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.8%	3.2%	3.2%
2008	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.9%	4.1%	3.9%	4.1%	4.3%	4.6%	4.3%	4.4%	4.8%

RED DEER ECONOMIC REGION:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 17 shows the changes in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 2,300 compared to a year ago, while employment in the Services-Producing industries decreased by 2,100. Industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Other Services, 1,800; Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas, 800; and Transportation and Warehousing, 700. Those industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Education Services, 2,600; Information, Culture and Recreation, 1000; and Business, Building and Other Support Services, 600.

RED DEER ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS* FIGURE 17

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	6,800	7,400	600
Accommodation and Food Services	6,200	5,900	-300
Business, Building and Other Support Services	2,900	2,300	-600
Construction	9,900	10,300	400
Education Services	7,300	4,700	-2,600
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	4,600	4,000	-600
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	9,600	10,400	800
Health Care and Social Assistance	11,700	12,300	600
Information, Culture and Recreation	2,900	1,900	-1,000
Manufacturing	7,900	8,300	400
Other Services	3,900	5,700	1,800
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	5,100	5,700	600
Public Administration	3,700	3,700	0
Trade	17,000	16,500	-500
Transportation and Warehousing	3,600	4,300	700

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

BANFF–JASPER–ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE ECONOMIC REGION:
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The labour force in the Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House Region (RMH) did not change in 2008. The participation rate for 2008 was 79.0%. Employment decreased by 1.3% during this period, from 52,800 in 2007 to 52,100 in 2008. The number of unemployed people in 2008 was 2,000.

The Banff-Jasper-RMH Region experienced the highest participation and employment rates throughout the province in 2008. This was likely a result of increased tourism to the region. Construction also aided in employment as several projects in the region commenced.

BANFF–JASPER–ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS

FIGURE 18

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	67.8	68.5	1.0%
Labour Force (000's)	54.1	54.1	0.0%
Employment (000's)	52.8	52.1	-1.3%
Unemployment (000's)	N/A	2.0	N/A
Unemployment Rate	N/A	3.7%	N/A

NA: Data not released due to insufficiency.

BANFF–JASPER–ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 19 shows the change in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 500 compared to a year ago, while employment in the Services-Producing industries decreased by 1,200. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Accommodation and Food Services, 1,700; Agriculture, 700; and Health Care and Social Assistance, 500. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Trade, 1,900; and Other Services, 1,100.

BANFF–JASPER–RMH ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS — FIGURE 19

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	1,600	2,300	700
Accommodation and Food Services	9,500	11,200	1,700
Business, Building and Other Support Services	NA	NA	NA
Construction	5,300	5,600	300
Education Services	1,900	2,000	100
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	1,900	1,800	-100
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	6,100	5,700	-400
Health Care and Social Assistance	3,000	3,500	500
Information, Culture and Recreation	2,100	2,200	100
Manufacturing	3,100	3,200	100
Other Services	3,200	2,100	-1,100
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	NA	NA	NA
Public Administration	NA	NA	NA
Trade	7,800	5,900	-1,900
Transportation and Warehousing	2,700	2,300	-400

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION:
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The Calgary Region's labour force increased by 24,300 people between 2007 and 2008, a growth of 3.2%. Employment within the region also grew by 2.9%, from 736,200 to 757,900. The number of unemployed people increased from 24,300 in 2007 to 26,800 in 2008, an increase of 10.3%.

Several real estate construction projects provided employment as well increased development of the region's core. Other major projects included The Bow and Chinook Centre Expansion.

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS

FIGURE 20

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	995.1	1,021.0	2.6%
Labour Force (000's)	760.4	784.7	3.2%
Employment (000's)	736.2	757.9	2.9%
Unemployment (000's)	24.3	26.8	10.3%
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	3.4%	0.2%

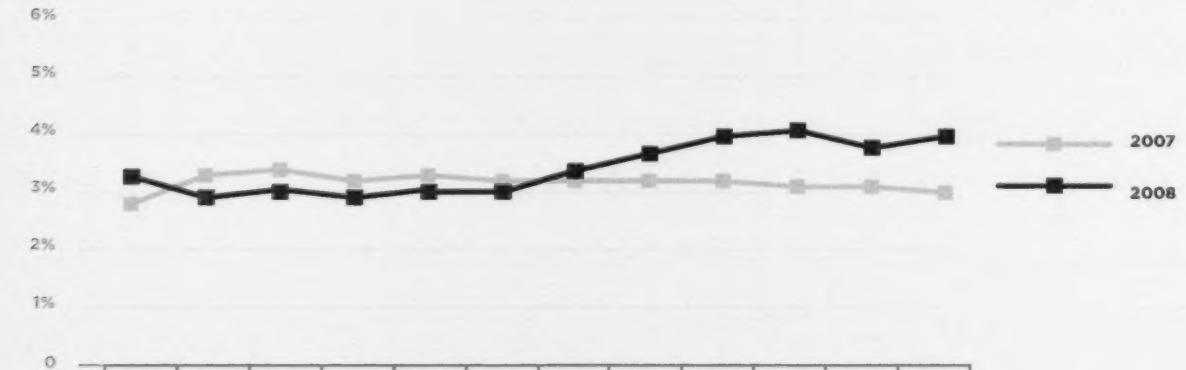
Figure 21 displays the monthly unemployment rates for the Calgary Economic Region between 2007 and 2008. In 2008, the unemployment rate for the region reached its low in February and April at 2.9% and peaked in October at 3.9%.

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2007-2008

Unadjusted, 3-Month Moving Average

FIGURE 21

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	2.8%	3.3%	3.4%	3.2%	3.3%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%
2008	3.1%	2.9%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%	3.5%	3.8%	3.9%	3.6%	3.8%

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 22 shows the change in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 12,200 compared to a year ago, and employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 9,600. The industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 10,700; Agriculture, 7,900; and Construction, 7,500. The industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Transportation and Warehousing, 7,500; Business, Building and Other Support Services, 4,500; and Utilities, 3,000.

CALGARY ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS — FIGURE 22

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	6,600	14,500	7,900
Accommodation and Food Services	38,500	40,800	2,300
Business, Building and Other Support Services	31,500	27,000	-4,500
Construction	67,600	75,100	7,500
Education Services	41,100	40,000	-1,100
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	45,700	50,000	4,300
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	59,800	55,800	-4,000
Health Care and Social Assistance	67,500	67,200	-300
Information, Culture and Recreation	34,500	31,900	-2,600
Manufacturing	50,000	53,600	3,600
Other Services	32,500	32,200	-300
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	79,900	90,600	10,700
Public Administration	24,000	26,600	2,600
Trade	104,300	110,100	5,800
Transportation and Warehousing	43,900	36,400	-7,500
Utilities	8,900	5,900	-3,000

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

CAMROSE-DRUMHELLER ECONOMIC REGION:
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The labour force in the Camrose-Drumheller Region increased by 1.5% between 2007 and 2008. During the same period, employment rose 2.0% from 110,000 to 112,200. Unemployment decreased by 13.9 percentage points, as the number of unemployed people decreased from 3,600 to 3,100.

The construction industry in the Camrose-Drumheller Region assisted in increasing employment in the region. Several projects such as Drumheller and District Regional Landfill Expansion provided employment for the area.

CAMROSE-DRUMHELLER ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS — FIGURE 23

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	154.7	155.4	0.5%
Labour Force (000's)	113.6	115.3	1.5%
Employment (000's)	110.0	112.2	2.0%
Unemployment (000's)	3.6	3.1	-13.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	2.7%	-0.5%

Figure 24 graphs the monthly unemployment rates for the Camrose-Drumheller Economic Region. In 2008, the unemployment rate reached its low in June at 2.3% and peaked in December at 3.0%. Overall, the annual unemployment rate decreased 0.5 percentage points, from a rate of 3.2% in 2007 to a rate of 2.7% in 2008.

CAMROSE-DRUMHELLER ECONOMIC REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2007-2008

Unadjusted, 3-Month Moving Average — FIGURE 24

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	2.9%	3.2%	3.4%	3.8%	3.8%	3.9%	3.7%	3.3%	2.8%	2.4%	2.5%	2.4%
2008	2.6%	2.6%	2.9%	2.7%	2.5%	2.3%	2.4%	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%	2.9%	3.0%

CAMROSE–DRUMHELLER ECONOMIC REGION:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 25 shows the change in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 1,400 compared to a year ago, while employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 800 during this same period. Industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Manufacturing, 1,400; and Public Administration, 1,100. Industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Accommodation and Food Services, 1,500; and Transportation and Warehousing, 900.

CAMROSE–DRUMHELLER ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS — FIGURE 25

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	12,500	12,300	-200
Accommodation and Food Services	6,200	4,700	-1,500
Business, Building and Other Support Services	3,400	3,200	-200
Construction	9,800	10,400	600
Education Services	8,200	8,100	-100
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	4,400	5,300	900
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	12,300	12,100	-200
Health Care and Social Assistance	10,400	11,200	800
Information, Culture and Recreation	2,100	2,400	300
Manufacturing	4,400	5,800	1,400
Other Services	5,600	5,400	-200
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	2,500	3,200	700
Public Administration	4,000	5,100	1,100
Trade	16,400	16,400	0
Transportation and Warehousing	5,700	4,800	-900
	1,900	1,700	-200

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

LETHBRIDGE-MEDICINE HAT ECONOMIC REGION:
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Between 2007 and 2008, the Lethbridge-Medicine Hat Region's labour force increased by 3.0% to 143,600 people. During the same period, employment increased by 5,000 people. In 2008, the employment rate for the region was 66.4%. The number of unemployed people in the region decreased to 4,800, a decrease of 14.3%.

The construction industry in the Lethbridge-Medicine Hat Region assisted in increasing employment in the region. Several projects such as the Expansion of University of Lethbridge and the Renovations of Chinook Regional Hospital provided employment for the area.

LETHBRIDGE-MEDICINE HAT ECONOMIC REGION LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS — FIGURE 26

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

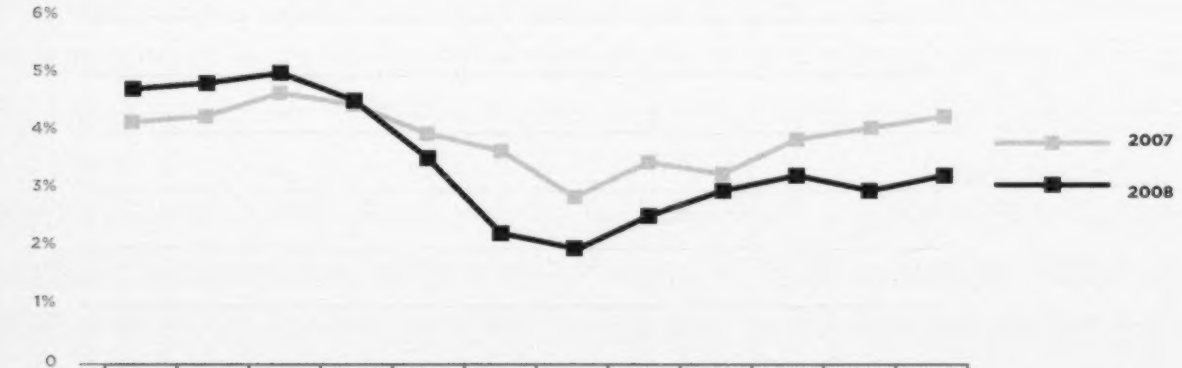
	2007	2008	CHANGE
Working-Age Population (000's)	206.7	209.0	1.1%
Labour Force (000's)	139.4	143.6	3.0%
Employment (000's)	133.8	138.8	3.7%
Unemployment (000's)	5.6	4.8	-14.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	3.0%	-1.0%

Figure 27 displays the monthly unemployment rates for the region in 2007 and 2008. In March, the unemployment rate reached its highest rate at 5.0%. After this peak, the unemployment rate decreased reaching a low of 2.0% in July.

LETHBRIDGE-MEDICINE HAT ECONOMIC REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 2007-2008

Unadjusted, 3-Month Moving Average — FIGURE 27

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2007	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%	4.5%	4.0%	3.7%	2.9%	3.5%	3.3%	3.9%	4.1%	4.3%
2008	4.6%	4.7%	5.0%	4.4%	3.4%	2.1%	2.0%	2.4%	3.0%	3.1%	3.0%	3.1%

LETHBRIDGE–MEDICINE HAT ECONOMIC REGION:
INDUSTRIES*

Figure 28 shows the change in industry employment between 2007 and 2008. Overall, employment in the Services-Producing industries increased by 4,500 compared to a year ago, while employment in the Goods-Producing industries increased by 600 during this same period. Industries with the highest year-over-year increase in employment were: Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing, 2,700; Agriculture, 2,100; and Trade, 1,600. Industries with the highest year-over-year decrease in employment were: Public Administration, 1,000; Accommodation and Food Services, 800; and Manufacturing, 800.

LETHBRIDGE–MEDICINE HAT ECONOMIC REGION EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS — FIGURE 28

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (2008 Historical)

INDUSTRY*	2007	2008	CHANGE
Agriculture	9,700	11,800	2,100
Accommodation and Food Services	8,200	7,400	-800
Business, Building and Other Support Services	4,900	4,500	-400
Construction	13,400	13,400	0
Education Services	8,800	10,000	1,200
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	4,700	7,400	2,700
Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas	10,700	10,400	-300
Health Care and Social Assistance	13,600	13,500	-100
Information, Culture and Recreation	3,300	2,600	-700
Manufacturing	12,900	12,100	-800
Other Services	4,900	6,000	1,100
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	4,500	5,000	500
Public Administration	6,600	5,600	-1,000
Trade	20,900	22,500	1,600
Transportation and Warehousing	5,700	6,000	300

*Industries Classified by North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS)

GLOSSARY

Employed People: People who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday):

(a) did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice;
(b) were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons.

Employment Rate: Refers to the number of people employed in the week (Sunday to Saturday), expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years of age and over.

Goods-Producing Industries: The following industries are included within this category: Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil, and Gas; Manufacturing; Agriculture; Construction; and Utilities.

Labour Force: Refers to people who were either employed or unemployed during the week (Sunday to Saturday).

Participation Rate: Refers to the labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday), expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over.

Services-Producing Industries: The following industries are included within this category: Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Leasing; Transportation and Warehousing; Accommodation and Food Services; Other Services; Information, Culture, and Recreation; Business, Building, and Other Support Services; Public Administration; Health Care and Social Assistance; Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services; Trade (retail and wholesale); and Educational Services.

Working-Age Population: People 15 years of age and over except people living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Unemployed People: People who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday), were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either:

(a) had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks; or
(b) were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or
(c) had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Unemployment Rate - Refers to the unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday).